

Mountaineer

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April 4, 2003

How to support deployed soldiers

by Sgt. Roy Gomez
14th Public Affairs Detachment

As armed forces from Fort Carson and other military bases across the United States are busy fighting to liberate Iraq, people here are looking for ways to lift and maintain the troops' morale.

Unfortunately because of security concerns and limited transportation space, organizations on Fort Carson are currently not accepting any gifts for deployed soldiers, according to Judy Woolley, Director of Army Community Services.

"All we can do is inform them about the AER (Army Emergency Relief) campaign and let them know they can make monetary contribution," said Woolley.

Col. Richard H. Breen Jr., Director of the Army's Community Relations and Outreach Division, said "We (ACROD) have identified a variety of outlets that people can use" when talking about family members, friends and concerned civilians trying to reach out and show their support for deployed troops.

See Troops, Page 4



Photo by Spc. Chris Smith

Four-star visit ...

Gen. Eric K. Shinseki, Army chief of staff, shakes hands with a soldier during his visit to Fort Carson Saturday. Shinseki thanked soldiers and family members for all their contributions to the current mobilization and operations to the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility.

3rd ID roots out 'nest' of 3,000 Iraqis



Photo by Staff Sgt. Kevin P. Bell

A 3rd Infantry Division soldier stands guard on the perimeter of the Division Main at "Objective Rams" in central Iraq Sunday.

Editor's note: The 3rd Infantry Division (Mech.) engaged in heavy fighting Wednesday with the Republican Guard's Medina Division near Karbala, Iraq, and some U.S. elements reportedly advanced to within 25 miles of Baghdad. V Corps and 3rd Division Main used a site near An Najaf as a staging area for Wednesday's battle. Securing that staging area a few days ago was tougher than expected, reports Spc. Mason Lowery from the 50th PAD out of Fort Stewart, Ga.

by Spc. Mason T. Lowery
Army News Service

KHAIRAT, Iraq (April 2) — "Objective Rams," near the town of An Najaf, turned out to be a hornet's nest of Iraqi irregulars for 3rd Infantry Division (Mech.) soldiers to root out from March 24 to 29.

Resistance was supposed to be light, but what U.S. soldiers found instead were Saddam Hussein's Al Qut, who were "curiously committed and tenaciously willing to go to their deaths for the regime," according to Lt. Col. Eric Wesley, 2nd Brigade Combat Team executive officer.

Rams was intended to be a staging area for the V Corps tactical operations center and 3rd Division Main to pause and plan operations for the battle with the Iraqi Medina Division, Wesley said.

About 3,000 enemy soldiers, armed with rocket-propelled guns and AK-47s, were waiting in An Najaf. There were two types of soldiers: Al Qut — those who came from Baghdad to reinforce commitment to the regime, and those

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Army boxer fights his way to the top. Page 19

Feature



Civilians support the troops as they head off to war in Iraq - with signs, flags and hard work.

See Page 16 and 17.

Happenings



The Colorado Rockies major league baseball team's season is under way. Catch a game at Coors Field.

See page 25.

Daylight-saving time

Don't forget daylight-saving time begins Sunday at 2 a.m.

Remember, "spring forward, fall back," so move clocks one hour forward.

**Post Weather hotline:
526-0096**

From donations to overtime ...

Troops supported despite pundits’ portrayals

Commentary by Sgt. 1st Class Gary L. Qualls Jr.
3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment

Operation Iraqi Freedom has been a subject of considerable controversy from the time it was first proposed.

Athletes, entertainers, government leaders and some journalists have tried to use their position to shape public opinion about the war and the troops that are carrying it out, an exercise that is well within the Constitutional rights, but some have voiced their opinions in loud, aggressive and vicious ways while their war is in progress — when the country needs to be unified and the troops need public support more than ever.

Stan Perdue, deputy Hub manager for the Rocky Mountain Heartland Hub of the American Red Cross, has seen this overwhelming support from all segments of society.

“No matter what’s being portrayed at all levels of the media, people do support the troops,” he said. “They believe in freedom and they want to help the troops.”

Humanitarianism abounds for the troops at Fort Carson. For example, Army Community Service, post chaplains and Child and Youth Services representatives have been spending many nights giving briefings to deploying soldiers at Family Readiness Group meetings. The Youth Sports program has extended its deadline for soccer registration to accommodate families with deploying soldiers. Rail-yard workers and Central Issue Facility employees have worked tirelessly to meet the considerable demands of helping soldiers get ready for deployment as have workers at the post alterations shop.

Perdue’s own Red Cross organization has supported

families of deploying soldiers by posting Homeland Security warnings on their Web site and, along with Army Emergency Relief and command finance non-commissioned officers, distributing Gold C entertainment coupon books donated to families of deploying soldiers by Channel 7 in Denver. This work is in addition to the emergency message service the Red Cross has long provided to soldiers.

Post travel and recreation organizations and the Directorate of Community Activities in general have helped soldiers get a little bit of enjoyment before their long undertaking. The Directorate of Information Management has helped with computer support and mail distribution. Test Measurement and Diagnostic Equipment and 3rd Shop have aided in the important areas of radiological equipment and vehicle support, respectively.

Outside of the installation, civilian supporters have been just as generous, Perdue said. Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, elementary schools and chapel youth groups have given numerous cards and letters to soldiers, which the Red Cross headquarters in Southwest Asia distribute to soldiers, making for “a nice morale booster.”

There has been an outpouring of care packages by the American public which the Army was forced to put on temporary moratorium due to heightened security concerns and transportation restrictions as well as the fact that there are more than enough packages to last the soldiers for the next several months, Perdue said. Perdue is hopeful this moratorium can be lifted by early summer.

State senators’ offices have called offering support, Perdue said. He’s also aware of a doctor in town who

took money from his own pocket to send medical supplies to a unit in Southwest Asia.

Many employees from companies throughout the community have gone the extra mile to help soldiers prepare their families before deploying and have expressed gratitude and wished them safety and a speedy return as they head into harm’s way.

Many other organizations, on and off post, have graciously and generously shown their support and this is recognized and greatly appreciated by deploying soldiers.

People can be seen at many locations in the surrounding community waving flags and carrying signs in support of the troops while people on post display yellow ribbons and signs for their deployed soldiers. Despite some news reports, support for the troops can be seen on literally every front.

“Heartfelt generosity and compassion” are the words Perdue uses to describe this outpouring.

People support the war effort and the troops who are carrying out that mission despite what some war correspondents and other opponents of the war would have us believe.

“The human spirit desires to help others in need regardless of race, creed or culture,” Perdue said.

Despite these attacks from within, Americans are in support of the war, according to the most recent polls, and Americans are behind the troops more than ever, as evidenced by an outpouring of support by citizens, both within and without the military community.

We are all Americans, and we help each other in times of crisis — regardless of what the political pundits say.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Mountaineer invites readers to write letters to the editor in response to stories in the *Mountaineer* or events that affect the entire Mountain Post Team.

Guidelines are set to ensure fairness to everyone. All letters must be signed and include an address or unit designation and daytime telephone number for verification. No address or telephone number will be published and name will be withheld upon request. Anonymous letters will not be considered.

Letters should be no longer than 200 words in length. The *Mountaineer* reserves the right to appropriately edit all letters. If a letter involves an on-post situation, the text of the letter will be forwarded to the appropriate person or directorate for comment. Obscene or pornographic language or materials will not be published.

Because of legal restrictions, both in federal regulations and AR360-81, under which the *Mountaineer* is published, no letters concerning local or national political issues will be published. Publication of any letters will also conform to all appropriate Department of Defense and U.S. Army regulations.

Letters may be sent to: Letters to the Editor, The *Mountaineer*, 1550 Specker Ave., Fort Carson, CO 80913 or dropped off at the *Mountaineer* office, building 1550, Room 2180.

Sound off!

How are you helping support the war effort?



“By being here for the soldiers and families.”

Joanne Postas
Fort Carson
Post Exchange



“Be a listening ear. There’s not much you can say when they are going into war, you can just listen.”

Bianca Sweeten
Army and Air Force
Exchange Service
Beauty Shop



“We treat soldiers with back injuries to help get them to a deployable level”

Michel Brown
Chiropractor Clinic,
Evans Army
Community Hospital



“Whatever comes across that I am capable of doing, I’ll do. I gave the service 28 years of my life and I feel like I’m a part of it even though I’m not in anymore.”

Pythias Thomas
Red Cross volunteer

MOUNTAINEER

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News

Carson NCOs join Army's most elite club

by Spc. Jon Wiley
Mountaineer staff

Four noncommissioned officers from the Mountain Post were inducted into the Army's most elite club during a ceremony at McMahon Theater March 27.

Sgt. 1st Class Roosevelt Knight, 91st Division, 2nd Battalion, 362nd Field Artillery; Sgt. 1st Class Charles Cavanaugh, 59th Military Police Company and Staff Sgts. Mark Draper, and Jesse Smith, both in the 32nd Transportation Company, joined the Army's best of the best, the Sergeant Audie Murphy Club.

"Each quarter, we conduct a rigorous selection process in an effort to identify only the finest noncommissioned officers for induction," said Sgt. 1st Class Cunny Love, president of the Fort Carson chapter of the SAMC.

Those who work under the NCOs honored this quarter agreed the club was successful.

"Sgt 1st Class Knight never settles for anything less than 100 percent commitment from his soldiers while personally demonstrating his dedication to

their professional development and well being," said Staff Sgt. Mel Doughty, 91st Div., 2nd Bn., 362nd FA.

Spc. Michael Holcomb, 59th MP Co., echoed Doughty's sentiments when describing his superior, Cavanaugh.

"He's a soldier all should strive to emulate. He's the type of leader who gets straight to the point and exceeds the standard," Holcomb said.

Spc. Emilio Espinoza, 32nd Trans. Co., said he is lucky to have a leader like Draper.

"Staff Sgt. Draper is disciplined, rational, inspiring, proficient, ethical, respectful and respected," he said.

Spc. Melanie Gibbons, 2nd Trans. Co., expressed her gratitude to serve under another of the inductees, Smith.

She said she and her unit benefit daily from the fine example of leadership Smith sets for them.

After acknowledging the past accomplishments of the inductees, the ceremony's guest speaker, retired Command Sgt. Major Lon Hardy reminded them of the grave responsibilities that lie ahead of them as they prepare themselves and their troops to



Photo by Spc. Jon Wiley

Three of the four most recent Sergeant Audie Murphy Club members stand tall after being inducted into the Army's elite club for noncommissioned officers.

deploy.

"The decisions you will make in the coming days will affect not only your soldiers, but those whom you must turn from enemies into, if not friends, people who trust you and your efforts," he said.

After mentioning his son, who is deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, Hardy added that the

inductees are among those whose actions will ensure that loved ones return home safely.

The ceremony concluded with the club's newest members being congratulated by their superiors, peers and subordinates.

***Editor's note:** Sgt. Audie Murphy is the Army's most decorated soldier.*

3rd ID

From Page 1

living in the area, who were threatened by the first group into fighting. They were told to fight or their families would be killed, explained Wesley.

Enemy soldiers used the town of Al Najaf as headquarters. From there, they headed out in small trucks to attack American soldiers.

"They came out at night and were not deterred by dying in the hundreds. They just kept coming but we suffered no deaths," Wesley said.

1st Battalion, 64th Armor and 2nd Brigade headquarters relieved 3rd Battalion, 7th Cavalry, which lost two tanks and Bradleys, but no soldiers. 1st Bn., 64th Armor soldiers moved across the Euphrates River to block enemy supply and communication lines, Wesley explained.

They captured Iraqi troops and got information on enemy locations from the enemy prisoners of war.

The U.S. soldiers, aided by Air

Force bombs and 2nd Bde. multiple-launch rocket systems, dismantled a city block containing a Baath Party headquarters building and troop barracks.

After a day and a half of destroying buildings and cutting lines of communication, Wesley said U.S. forces killed approximately 1,000 enemy soldiers and captured as many as 800.

A captured Fedayeen general said that out of his original 1,200 troops, only 20 remained. 2nd Bde. soldiers suffered three return-to-duty casualties, Wesley said.

"That area is secured; we'll continue operations as planned," Wesley said. "It took a committed and strong arm to stop behavior that would be counter-intuitive to most soldiers — they just ran in waves into the fire. ... They're committed to going to their deaths for a questionable regime."

Wesley attempted to explain the strange behavior of the Iraqi soldiers: "Saddam has ruled with absolute terror for about 24 years. As a result, he's got a pretty solid grip on power. I think a lot

of these loyalist soldiers have sold out they get their legitimacy from (Saddam). As long as he's alive, they'll continue. The Iraqi people will turn on them once (Saddam's) out of power, so they want to keep him in power. Who knows, maybe they were levered into fighting for him years ago."

A soldier involved in the fighting, Pfc. Walter Hicks, A Co., 1st Bn., 64 Armor, said: "There's not much to tell. When you're shot at and you have to shoot back — your feelings just go out the window.

Bradley Driver Spc. James Slayton, a C Co., 3-15 soldier from Gainesville, Fla., said: "I was a little tense when we first got to Rams. You see your life flash before your eyes — going through that. You hate to see people get shot, but they had their chance to give up."

Spc. Jeffrey Smith, a tank driver for A Co., 1-64 from Salinas, Calif., said: "When you're in it, you just reflexively go back to your training. I don't know how it will affect me. If we don't change things over here, I'll be really mad."

Troops

From Page B1

There are several Web sites that sponsor military programs for members of the Armed Forces. While the items and services are not endorsed by the military, the following providers help soldiers and their families keep in touch;

You can donate a calling card through Operation Uplink at www.operationuplink.org.

You can send a greeting via E-mail through Operation Dear Abby at <http://anyserVICEmember.org> or www.OperationDear-Abby.net.

You can sign a virtual thank you card at the Defend America Web site at www.defendamerica.mil/nman.thml.

You can send a personal message through "Stars and Stripes" via E-mail at messages@estripes.com.

You can also make a monetary donation to any of the following military relief societies;

Army Emergency Relief at www.aerhq.org.

Operation USO Care Package at www.usometrodc.org/care.

Military

Alcohol Screening Day

Educating Carson about substance abuse

by Spc. Stacy Harris
Mountaineer staff

The Army Substance Abuse Program, in conjunction with the El Paso County Department of Health and Environment and Mothers Against Drunk Driving, is sponsoring a National Alcohol Screening Day during Alcohol Awareness Month in April to help educate the post community on the dangers of alcohol abuse.

The screening day will be held from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day: Thursday at the Fort Carson Commissary; Friday at the Fort Carson Post Exchange; and April 14 at Evans Army Community Hospital.

Members from ASAP will be at the screening day to talk about the treatment programs available on Fort Carson, hand out questionnaires and conduct surveys on participants, said Sgt. 1st Class Jamel Gilbert, ASAP noncommissioned officer. Representatives from local communities will also be available to talk to military personnel and their family members about alcohol abuse.

"Alcoholics can be anybody," Gilbert said. "A lot of times it's not just the lower enlisted or the younger adults ..." he said, mentioning that even the higher

enlisted and older adults are candidates for a drinking problem.

Gilbert identifies an alcoholic as a person who has a dependency on alcohol. "It (drinking) is dealing with stress. It's their get-a-way."

The main focus for the screening day is to bring members of the community in and get a feel for their drinking habits, he said. This will help us identify those who would like counseling or advice and point them in the right direction to acquire the necessary help. The screening day will also have experts available to answer any questions about alcohol awareness.

The drunk goggles will also be on hand to give community members "the sensation of being intoxicated, but be able to remember what it felt like," Gilbert said.

Alcoholism is a disease, he said. It can lead to medical problems, other types of substance abuse, distracted thinking, and in some cases, financial issues. For questions or help, call 526-2181 or 526-9191.

"I recommend soldiers take the (phone) number," Gilbert said. "Not because you need it, but someone else might need help."



April is Alcohol Awareness Month. Screenings will be held Thursday, Friday and April 14 to help educate the post community on the dangers of alcohol abuse.

Military Briefs

Small pox Hotline

Small pox vaccination hotline — The Preventive Medicine Careline has established a small pox hotline to give information on the status of small pox vaccinations in the community. The number is 526-6422.

Hours of operation

Mountain Post Wellness Center — The wellness center, located next to the commissary, hours of operation are now 6 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mondays through Fridays.

Information, Tickets and Registration Office and the Outdoor Recreation Complex Information Desk have been combined in an effort to better serve customers. Hours of operation are Tuesdays through Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. For information, call 526-2083 or 526-5366.

For official travel services, Carlson-Wagonlit Travel, in building 1012 on Long Street, is open Mondays through Fridays from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., and until 3 p.m. on training holidays.

Travelers are reminded to bring three copies of travel orders when picking up tickets for official travel. Soldiers and family members must have one original and one copy of their “travelopes” and three copies of each order, to include amendments, for overseas permanent changes of station. If you cannot pick up your tickets in person, you can fax a copy of orders to 526-1142 or 576-5262 for issuance of an E-ticket.

Please call 576-5188 to confirm receipt of faxed orders. Tickets will not be issued without orders. If you do not use your ticket, you must bring it and two copies of your orders. If you were issued an E-ticket and did not travel, you still must bring in two copies of orders to process a refund for the unused ticket.

Central Issue Facility hours of operation are: Regular business hours: Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 7:30 to 10:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Thursdays 7:30 to 10:30 a.m. Initial Issue/Partial Issue/DX:

Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 7:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Thursdays: 7:30 to 10:30 a.m. Partial Turn-Ins: Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. All full turn-ins require an appointment. Please call 524-2006 or 526-2729 to schedule an appointment. For questions, call Stacey Sly at 526-5512.

Legal assistance adjusted schedule — Due to the increase of deployments and the need for attorneys to staff the Soldier Readiness Packet site, walk-ins to see attorneys are now Wednesdays only; sign in is at 12:30 p.m. on a first-come, first-served basis. Power of Attorneys and notaries are done on a walk-in basis 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Briefings

Special Forces briefings — Special Forces recruiting briefings are Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m. and Thursdays at 1:30 and 3:30 p.m. at the Grant Library for males in the pay grades E-3 to E-7 with a general test score of 100 or higher and who are U.S. citizens.

ETS/Transition briefing schedule — In order for soldiers to receive their end of time in service orders, soldiers must attend an End of Term of Service briefing. Soldiers may sign in at 7:15 a.m. and the briefing begins at 7:30 a.m. in building 1118, room 317. For more information, call the Transition Center at 526-2240 or 526-4298.

Pest control training — Pest Management Regulation, AR 200-5, requires only certified applicators apply pesticides on military installations. The Directorate of Environmental Compliance and Management has a program that provides military personnel the necessary training and herbicide. Each unit is allowed a maximum of five people for training unless approved through the unit commander to DECAM. Training sessions are scheduled for the first and third Tuesday of every month from 10 to 11 a.m. at building 3711, until all units have received the training.

The Commanding General’s Newcomers’ Brief is the third Wednesday of each month, 1 to 3 p.m. at McMahon Theater.

The following are dates for upcoming briefings: Wednesday, April 16 and May 21.

There will be a local Officer Candidate School board May 22 and 23. This board is required for all applicants. All participants must

report in Class A uniform. All packets must be turned in to the 502nd Personnel Services Battalion, Personnel Actions Section, building 1118, room 208, no later than May 7. For more information, call Sgt. Jacklyn Christensen at 526-1906.

Amnesty Turn-in

Fort Carson Ammunition and Explosives amnesty turn-in — When military A & E are found outside the boundaries of Fort Carson military areas, notify the local civilian authorities or the military police, 526-2333. Abandoned military A & E, excluding small arms ammunition up to and including .50 caliber, will not be moved by untrained personnel. If A & E are found, notify the Fort Carson 764th Explosive Ordnance Company, 526-2643.

Abandoned A & E found on post may be turned in at the Ammunition Reclamation Area, located on Butts Road, one mile south of the airfield. The hours are Mondays through Fridays from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. For more information, contact the Ammunition Supply Point, 526-4381, or the Quality Assurance Office, 526-1795 or 526-1892.

Laundry Service

Post Laundry Service — The Post Laundry service provides free laundry and dry cleaning service to soldiers for government-owned property only. Items issued by the Central Issue Facility should be cleaned at the Post Laundry prior to turn in. Soldiers are reminded to allow extra time for items to return from the cleaners. It is not recommended to pick up your equipment on the same day as the scheduled CIF appointment.

The turnaround for the service is 72 hours and no appointment is necessary. The Post Laundry will not clean personal items like BDUs, boots, tent pegs, canteens, entrenching tools or wet-weather gear. Material TA-50 items that can be washed include: sleeping bag assembly, chemical suits, Gortex, ruck sacks, coveralls, CVC jackets and most web equipment.

Hours of operation are 7:30 a.m. to noon and 12:30 to 3:45 p.m., Mondays through Fridays, excluding holidays. For more information, call 526-8806 or 526-8804.

Editor’s note: The deadline for submitting “briefs” to the Mountaineer is 5 p.m. Friday before publication.

Dining Schedule

Week of April 5 to April 11

Weekday Dining Facilities

43rd ASG Cheyenne Mtn. Inn (building 1040)
3rd ACR CAV House (building 2461)
3rd ACR Butts Army Airfield (building 9612)
3rd BCT Iron Bde. (building 2061)

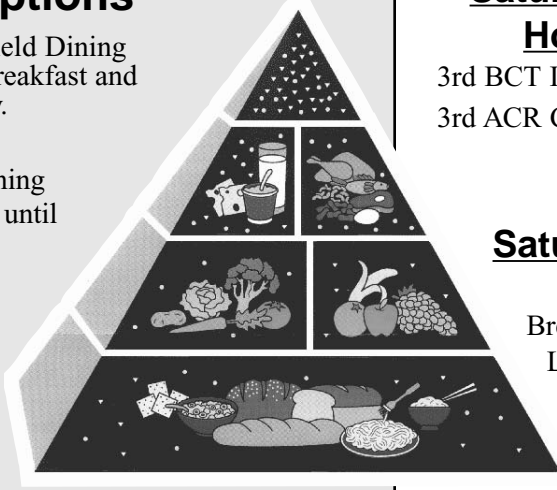
Weekday Meal Hours

Breakfast 6 to 9 a.m.
Lunch 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Dinner 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Exceptions

- Butts Army Airfield Dining Facility serves breakfast and lunch meals only.
- 10th SFG (A) dining facility is closed until further notice.

43rd is closed
Saturday and
Sunday



Saturday, Sunday and Training Holiday Dining Facilities

3rd BCT Iron BDE. (building 2061)
3rd ACR Cav. House. (building 2461)

Saturday, Sunday and Training Holiday Meal Hours

Breakfast 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.
Lunch 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Dinner 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

*Family members are cordially invited to dine
in Fort Carson dining facilities.*

Retirement postponed for some soldiers

Many soldiers around Fort Carson are affected by the most recent stop loss, but most are taking it in stride

by Sgt. Roy Gomez

14th Public Affairs Detachment

After 20 years of serving his country, he was looking forward to the end of his Army career and the beginning of a civilian life in Colorado Springs.

However, 10 months before he was scheduled to start out processing, Staff Sgt. David Pace, Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment, was notified that he wouldn't be able to retire as he expected.

Pace is only one of the thousands of soldiers on Fort Carson whose plans for retiring or separating from the Army have been changed because of the Army's latest series of stop-loss orders.

"First we started with skilled-based stop-loss — meaning specific MOSs (military occupational spe-

cialty) ... and then we came to just all deploying units are stop-loss," explained Lt. Col. Patrick Devine, G-1, Headquarters and Headquarters Co., 7th Infantry Division.

The stop-loss currently in effect applies to all soldiers in units that have been deployed to or have been alerted for deployment to the Central Command area of responsibility. With more than 11,000 soldiers from Fort Carson deployed or on orders to deploy, the number of soldiers retiring and separating will be lower than usual.

"The stop-loss will be in effect until the Army determines that it can maintain the forces needed to be fluid," said Devine.

Although the Army instated the stop-loss to maintain its strength in numbers, there can be some exceptions to the program, allowing some soldiers to retire as scheduled, according to Devine.

However, the extra time in service is not lowering some of the affected soldiers' morale as they are accustomed to changes.

"It (stop-loss) doesn't bother me," said Pace. "It's just a part of the job."

Stop-loss information

Q: What is stop-loss?

A: A program implemented to preserve strength figures within deployed, deploying and alerted units.

Q: Who is affected?

A: All soldiers, regardless of rank and specialty, who are deployed or have been alerted for deployment to the U.S. Central Command area.

Q: How long will the stop-loss program be in effect?

A: The stop-loss program will not be lifted until Army leaders determine that they can maintain the number of soldiers needed for current operations.

Q: Are there exceptions to the stop-loss program?

A: Yes. All exceptions are on a command-directed basis.

Greenback

DFAS Web site: your personal finance office

2nd Lt. Suzanne Love
4th Finance Battalion

Have you used myPay recently? The Defense Finance and Accounting Service has multiple services available in order to know the status of your pay and be able to manage your finances.

One hurdle for many people when trying to log on to myPay is the PIN number. In order to use myPay, you need your Social Security Number and myPay Personal Identification Number. Depending on what you want to do in myPay, you might need additional information. If you do not know or have suspended your customized PIN, you may re-activate your PIN on-line in myPay.

First, you must suspend your PIN by entering any four to eight numeric digit PIN three times. The screen instructions will tell you how to establish a new customized PIN online. You must enter the desired new PIN twice and correctly respond to the identity validation questions.

If your customized PIN is currently suspended, enter your SSN and any four to eight numeric digit PIN once. Follow the screen instructions to establish a new customized PIN by entering the desired new PIN twice and by correctly responding to the identity validation questions.

New Personal Identification Numbers

If you are: civilian, military reservist (any

branch of service), active Air Force or Marine Corps, military retiree or annuitant then select NEW PIN under the NEED A NEW PIN option on the myPay home page. The process will issue a new random temporary PIN for your account, which will be mailed to your address of record currently contained in your pay system. In order to initiate this process, return to the top of this page and click on MAIN, then select "New PIN." Allow 10 business days for delivery.

If you are: active Navy or Army, myPay cannot currently mail a new PIN to you, you must fax or mail the following information to DFAS in order to establish a new temporary PIN:

- Name
- SSN
- Copy of your government photo ID (If you do not have a government photo ID, you can send a copy of your driver's license or other photo ID.) If you have a new military ID you need to photocopy both sides because the SSN is on the back.

• Daytime phone number

• Signature

Fax: (216) 522-5800 or
Send this information to:
DFAS-Cleveland/PMCAA

Attention myPay
1240 East 9th Street
Cleveland, OH 44199

If you fax or mail your request, a new Temporary

PIN will be set to the last five numbers of your SSN. Please wait at least two business days before attempting to use your new temporary PIN (allow additional time if you mailed your request). You will not receive any notification that your temporary PIN has been reset.

Upon completion and acceptance of a change, myPay will display a "no later than" date. Your change will be effective on or before the date myPay displays.

Annuitants, military (all services and components), civilians and retirees can verify the change to your account by accessing myPay three to seven business days after you make a change, or by contacting your customer service representative (see FAQ #33).

In keeping with government streamlining efforts and to reduce the use of paper, myPay takes advantage of existing technology and is paperless, so you will not receive written confirmation. However, myPay displays a "NO LATER THAN" date when your change is accepted. Any change you make to your account should be posted no later than this date. If your change does not appear on your account by then, contact your customer service representative.

Military (active and reserve) and civilians can check Leave and Earnings Statement to verify that changes were processed.

Annuitants will receive a pay statement in the mail each time they make a change to their account.

Victims' rights: fulfilling a promise of help

Courtesy of the Criminal Law Division

For more than 30 years, our nation has witnessed both a growing awareness of the plight of crime victims and the birth of a profession dedicated to serving crime victims within community-based organizations and the criminal and juvenile justice systems.

Across the United States, over the past three decades, there have been enormous strides in establishing basic rights for crime victims concerning the emotional, physical and financial needs they experience in the aftermath of crime.

National Crime Victims' Rights Week, a commemorative week for crime victims and those who serve them, first instituted by President Ronald Reagan, is marking its 23rd anniversary Sunday to April 12. Each year a theme is selected to highlight the ongoing struggle for better services and assistance for victims of crime; this year the theme is "Victims' Rights: Fulfill the Promise."

What is our promise to crime victims? And how have we fulfilled, or not fulfilled, that promise?

When the first community-based service programs for crime victims began in the early 1970s, few people were conscious of the plight of crime victims. In the United States, most citizens are familiar with the legal protections accorded the accused — the rights to be informed of their rights, to counsel, to face their accusers and of course, "innocent until proven guilty." But few people, were even faintly aware in those early days of the lack of protection, services, information and basic respect accorded to those individuals who were victims of criminal conduct.

The promise dreamed and vigorously pursued by the early pioneers of victim services, and carried out by literally thousands of nameless volunteers and professionals since then, is that victims of crime be accorded the same rights, information and legal protections that are constitutionally guaranteed to offenders: the promise that victims be treated with the same dignity and respect that we accord to offenders. While not yet fully realized, this promise has seen remarkable progress and achievement over the years.

Today, all states and U.S. territories have enacted victims' rights statutes that guarantee a range of rights to crime victims, including the following: to receive information about their rights; to be notified of notification about the offender's status and location; to reasonable protection; to submit a victim impact statement detailing the various effects of the crime upon the victim; to restitution from the

offender; and, in the case of violent crimes, to be eligible to receive compensation from state victim compensation funds. In addition, 33 states have enacted victims' rights constitutional amendments that strengthen crime victims' rights within the legal system.

A vast network of community-based and system-based professionals and organizations in every state has developed from virtually nothing more than a handful of individuals who dreamed that the promise of equal protection and assistance for crime victims was something that could and should be fulfilled. The burgeoning profession of victim assistance in this country has been built upon years of selfless service by countless individuals, paid and volunteer, who steadfastly and resolutely put one foot in front of the other in a sometimes slow, but always steady pursuit of the fulfillment of that promise.

Our country, and thousands of individuals and families, suffered an unprecedented and horrific loss Sept. 11, 2001. It was also a wake-up call to the utter devastation of victimization and its impact on individuals, communities, and our nation as a whole. And it was a demonstration of what this country can accomplish when we pull together to assist those among us who have been victimized by the evil deeds of others.

National Crime Victims' Rights Week is a time to reflect upon the direction we are headed, as individuals and as a nation, to assist those who are victimized by crime. It is an opportunity to take a good, hard look at the promise we owe crime victims and what more we can do to fulfill that promise.

The Staff Judge Advocate's office at Fort Carson and throughout the Army has a program to assist witnesses and victims of offenses committed by military members that violate the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

For purposes of this program, a victim is a person who has suffered physical, emotional or financial harm as a result of a crime committed under the UCMJ that will be prosecuted by Fort Carson.

A witness is a person who provides information or evidence to the military about a crime within the military's investigative jurisdiction. The term "witness" does not include a defense witness or any individual involved in the crime as a perpetrator or accomplice.

The purpose of the program is to help minimize

the physical, psychological and financial hardships suffered by victims and witnesses of offenses investigated by Department of the Army authorities. The program is also designed to foster full cooperation of victims and witnesses within the military criminal justice system. The person at Fort Carson responsible for helping victims and witnesses in this program is the Victim/Witness Liaison, Christa Thompson.

The Victim/Witness Liaison helps victims obtain financial, legal, and other services, as

appropriate, by providing information about these services to victims. Some of the programs that provide services to victims include: Army Community Services Program, Army Emergency Relief, Social Work Services, Legal Assistance, The American Red Cross, and Chaplain Services. In cases where military social services are unavailable, the liaison provides assistance in finding any available nonmilitary services within the civilian community.

The Victim/Witness Liaison also advises victims and witnesses of the stages in the military criminal justice system, as well as the role that victims and witnesses can be expected to play in the process. Additionally, the liaison advises witnesses and victims of the status of any significant events in the case in which they are involved.

For more information concerning this program, contact Thompson at 526-1383, Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, Criminal Law Division, building 6285, Fort Carson.



Weapons registration mandatory on post

by 1st Lt. Melissa Field
Provost Marshal Office

Registration deadlines:

Soldiers who receive, buy or take possession of a firearm after signing-in to their unit have three working days from the time they take possession to register the firearm if it is kept within 60 miles of Fort Carson.

Family members living on-post have three working days to register a firearm from the time the firearm is brought on post. All others must register a firearm before bringing it on post.

Registration: Do not bring the firearm when registering it. Stop by the Provost Marshal Office, building 2700, Christie Street) and pickup Fort Carson

Form 66. Fill it out, have your commander sign it, and bring it back to the PMO. Family members need to have their sponsor's commander sign the form. (Civilians are exempt from this requirement.) After three working days, the form will be ready for pickup from the PMO.

Firearms on post

There are only four authorized purposes for bringing a firearm on post: purchase or sale, use of an authorized range, hunting area, fishing area, or recreation area, use at an authorized off-post activity or repair or maintenance of the weapon.

Transportation must be direct. The

weapon shall be transported in the trunk of the vehicle or in a covered bed of a truck. If the vehicle does not have a trunk or a covered bed, the weapon may be transported in the passenger area of the vehicle as long as it is in plain view. Ammunition must be in a container separate from the weapon and the firearm must be unloaded.

For more information on regulations governing firearms and weapons on Fort Carson, refer to Fort Carson regulation 210-18, Prohibited and Regulated Conduct. If you should have questions regarding registration or carry of firearms on post, contact the PMO customer service desk at 526-2809 or the desk sergeant at 526-2333.

Traffic Roll Up

In the past week, 54 total citations were issued for the following reasons:

- 12 for speeding
- 1 for no safety

restraints

- 18 for parking violations
- 23 for other violations

(e.g.: malfunctioning equipment, lack of insurance or registration, expired plates and improper vehicle operation)

Community

*Dreaming of sunny beaches and tropical drinks?
If you skip town without taking leave it could be ...*

Prison, court and a felony

by Spc. Chris Smith

14th Public Affairs Detachment

Sure, going absent without leave may sound like a good idea; running down to a sunny beach, sipping Mai Thais and enjoying the cool breeze. But does losing all benefits, rank, serving jail time and having a federal conviction really sound like a good idea?

Soldiers who go AWOL not only risk their military career, they also risk their life after the military, said Spc. Amanda Potter, Fort Carson AWOL apprehension.

Up until a September 2001 Forces Command policy change, soldiers who went AWOL for more than 30 days were transported to the nearest personnel confinement facility, where they would be subsequently discharged from service. Now soldiers gone for more than 30 days are returned to their units where they could possibly be court-martialed and even serve jail time, Potter said.

"I'd say we catch about 95 percent of the soldiers who go AWOL," said Potter. "Most are picked up for traffic violations. We've picked up a couple of people who were AWOL over 20 years."

When a soldier is missing for 24 hours from his unit, he is reported as AWOL. The unit submits paperwork to the Provost Marshal Office and a warrant is posted for the soldier's arrest, said Potter. A soldier having his license run at a traffic stop will come up as having the warrant, and the police will bring him in.

The soldier will then sit in jail until he is picked up by his unit if he was gone less than 30 days or by AWOL apprehension if he was gone for more than 30 days.

Douglas Hackler used to be a soldier with 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry. He went AWOL about a year ago and was picked up by police when his girlfriend in Pennsylvania turned him in. He said he spent two weeks in jail waiting to be picked up and when he returned to his unit, he received a court-martial and was discharged from service.

"I wish I hadn't done it," said Hackler. "They didn't just kick me out, the whole process took about four months."

Potter said about 25 soldiers go AWOL each month. This equates to about 300 soldiers a year; that's more than a company of manpower that the Army loses.

When soldiers are brought back, they are returned to their units for punishment. Maximum punishment can be 18 months confinement and hard labor, forfeiture of all pay and entitlements, and a dishonorable discharge.

Potter said soldiers should think of the consequences before going AWOL.



Photo by Spc. Chris Smith

Tired of the Army? Feel like tossing your bags in the back of the car and leaving town? Consider the consequences — soldiers who go absent without leave for more than 30 days are returned to their units where they could be court-martialed and serve jail time.

"It's going to affect whatever jobs they get afterwards (if they receive a court-martial)," said Potter.

Soldiers with families who go AWOL can have their allotments and family allowance stopped, their Soldiers Group Life Insurance discontinued, and their families could lose post exchange and medical privileges, according to Department of the Army Pamphlet 630-1. The pamphlet goes on to say that soldiers who are thinking about going AWOL because of

family emergencies and the like should make every possible effort through their chain of command to receive emergency leave.

Hackler, who is now out of the military, said that he's had trouble getting jobs due to his federal conviction.

"I'm a felon now," he said. "A lot of people don't give you the benefit of the doubt when it comes to getting a job."

So while sipping Mai Thais in warmer climate may seem tempting, don't do it without permission. Soldiers going AWOL risk a lot more than just their military career.

Maximum punishment for soldiers absent without leave

Less than three days AWOL: one month confinement, forfeiture of two-thirds pay, no discharge

Between three and 30 days AWOL: six months confinement, forfeiture of two-thirds pay, dishonorable discharge

Thirty days or more AWOL (turn self in): one year confinement, forfeiture of two-thirds pay, dishonorable discharge

Thirty days or more AWOL (apprehended): 18 months confinement, forfeiture of two-thirds pay, dishonorable discharge

Intent to avoid maneuvers or movement (regardless of time): six months confinement, forfeiture of all pay and entitlements, bad conduct discharge



Community Events

Meetings, briefings and classes

Town meeting — The Fort Carson Commanding General and the Garrison Commander will address the Fort Carson community at a town meeting April 16 from 6 to 8 p.m. at McMahon Theater, building 1517. Free child-care will be provided at the East Child Development Center in the "red room," building 6058, across from Soldiers Memorial Chapel. Call Faye Wilburn at 526-8220 for child-care details.

New Parent-Teacher Organization — The Carson Middle School has started a Parent-Teacher Organization and is looking for parents interested in participating. The PTO has openings for the vice-president, athletic booster chairperson and band booster chairperson.

The first meeting is Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria. It will be a potluck dinner and will be held in conjunction with the school talent show. Children and parents can participate together. The PTO will also be sponsoring the Carson Middle School Book Fair until Wednesday in the library. Books will be sold two for the price of one.

Anyone interested in helping with the PTO can call Valerie at 382-0951.

TRICARE update briefing — There will be a TRICARE update briefing in Cochrane Hall, Evans Army Community Hospital for all eligible active duty military members, retired service members and their families April 17 starting at 11 a.m. No reservation needed.

eArmyU — Notice has been received from the Department of the Army that there are to be no new eArmyU program enrollments during the month of April in order to review how well the program is meeting its objectives. Soldiers already enrolled in the program can enroll in courses. For information, call Virginia Frazier at 526-5544.

Red Cross — The American Red Cross is offering an Adult, Infant, Child CPR, Automated External Defibrillator and First Aid class April 26 at the Red Cross office at Evans Army Community Hospital, room 1801. Call 526-7825 for class cost and more information.

Change in hours

Child and Youth Services

There is a change in hours of operation for Child and Youth Services central registration office. Walk-in hours are from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday and Thursday. Appointment hours are 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays. There is now a clerk on duty every Saturday at the Youth Center, building 5950, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. You may register for any CYS program during this time.

The following is required to register: Up-to-date immunization record, health assessment, proof of income, three emergency designees, child's Social Security Number and an up-to-date physical. For more information, call Faye Wilburn at 526-8220.

Yard sales

Would you like to make a fistful of money from that gold mine of unwanted stuff? The annual Fort Carson Mayors yard sales are scheduled to begin Thursday. Yard sales are held the first Saturday of every month, between April and December, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Participation is open to all Fort Carson village residents.

Single soldiers and military families (active or retired), who reside off-post, also have the opportunity to participate. On-post residents can set up in front of their homes, while single soldiers and off post residents can set up at the Beacon School parking lot. All residents and sellers must comply with the following guidelines:

1. Yard sales are only held on days provided in the annual schedule. Residents holding yard sales on days other than stated (first Saturday of the month, April to December) will be issued a citation.
2. Individuals are responsible for the conduct of their own yard sale.
3. Commercial organizations/indi-

viduals will comply with those regulations related to commercial solicitations.

4. Individual occupants and/or sellers are responsible for removal of trash and must have it removed no later than 5 p.m. on the day of the sale. The Housing Liaison and/or Area Coordinator will issue citations for items left on the curb, unless it is the resident's regular trash day.

5. All sellers are prohibited from offering the following sale items: drugs, guns, food or any other items which do not conform to the rules and regulations of Fort Carson, the state of Colorado or the federal government.

6. Civilian visitors are required to comply with all Fort Carson regulations.

What should you do at the end of the day with leftovers? Perhaps, you can donate those items to a local charity or there is always the next yard sale. Remember, to have a successful yard sale, plan ahead and have a good time. For more information, contact your village mayor/deputy mayor or the Mayoral Program Coordinator at 526-1082 or 526-1049.

Misc.

Stress management — Everyday stress about to make you pop a cork? The Mountain Post Wellness Center has an Anger Management Class designed to help you cope with life stressors in healthy ways.

This basic class helps individuals cope and deal with those events that may lead to anger or angry outbursts. It is open to all active duty personnel, family members over the age of 18, retirees and Department of Defense employees. Anyone wishing to attend must have a screening with the instructor.

Classes are held at the Mountain Post Wellness Center, next to the commissary, telephone number 526-3887.

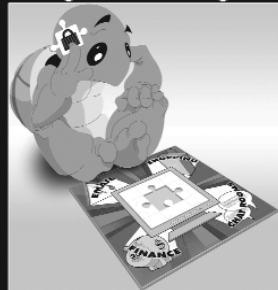
The next class will be Monday.

Red Cross — The American Red Cross Armed Forces Emergency Services Branch is partnering with an infant and children's clothing company to offer free baby clothes to children born after Sept. 11, 2001 to soldiers deployed in support of Operation

Army Community Service
Family Readiness Center
526-4590

INFORMATION SECURITY

Putting the Pieces Together



Thursday

6 to 7:30pm,
Family Readiness Center, Bldg. 1526

Located next to the commissary.
Advanced registration please, childcare available 526-4590.
NATIONAL CONSUMER PROTECTION WEEK
February 2-8, 2003 www.consumer.gov/ncpw

Enduring Freedom or Operation Iraqi Freedom. To participate, go to the Red Cross office in room 1801, Evans Army Community Hospital, and fill out an information sheet. The information will be sent to the company, which will issue a certificate for you to complete and return. For more information, call Theresa at the Red Cross at 526-7825.

Prayer group — A Colorado Christian Home School group in the Parker/Aurora area is heading up a prayer ministry called "May I pray for a soldier?" They would like to support soldiers at Fort Carson, by personally praying for those who will be supporting the war in Iraq.

If you are one of those soldiers who would like to be remembered in prayer, please e-mail your name to prayforsoldier@attbi.com. If you would like to be contacted by the family who will be praying for you, please include your overseas address (e-mail and/or regular mail).

End of the road ...

Col. Simeon Trombitas, garrison commander, 7th ID and Fort Carson, congratulates Sgt. 1st Class Thomas O. Baxter, III, during March's 7th Infantry Division and Fort Carson retirement ceremony March 28. Baxter was one among five retiring soldiers who were honored for their commitment to the Army at the ceremony. Joining Baxter in the ceremony were Chief Warrant Officer David J. Soldano, Sgt. 1st Class Timothy D. Love, Sgt. 1st Class Donald J. Peters and Staff Sgt. John E. Downey Jr.



Photo by Sgt. Roy Gomez

Chaplain's Corner

Springtime: *Everything can grow new — including you*

**Commentary by Chap. (Lt. Col.) Steven Moon
7th Infantry Divison**

Spring is here and with it comes the newness of life and growth of nature. None of us actually has much influence over our own height, but we can grow in other ways.

We are all on a “growth journey” as long as we live, so it behooves us to grow effectively.

If you are going to grow, you must first be a student. You must be a student of life. Life is the context of growth. Each one of us is a person of worth created in the image of God, thus we should learn all we can about life. You must be a student of prayer. Prayer is asking and receiving, as well as praise to God. Strive to grow in your prayer life. You need to be a student of the Bible.

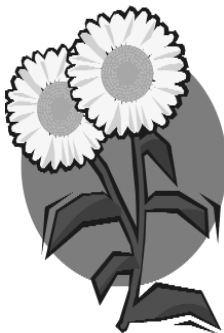
The Bible is a growth book. It helps people to grow intellectually as well as spiritually. It offers admonition in family, business, relationships and spirituality. You must be a student of fellowship. Everyone needs to become a student of community and learn to live in harmony. No one is an “island,” therefore we need to grow in love for people and learn to feel comfortable

with people different from us.

You also need to grow psychologically. Growth through psychology reveals the study of the soul, the study of human behavior. Psychology helps us understand and accept our insecurities, fears, emotions and self-worth.

Growth, real growth, deep strong authentic growth, is often difficult and painful. Remember the slogan, no pain-no gain? Usually this is the case, in that we stretch us, it makes us uncomfortable at times, and usually takes time. Growth is usually gradual, and should be continuous. It is a journey, not only a destination. Growth is also a discipline. Real, long lasting growth requires self-discipline. You must deny yourself certain short term and even intermediate term pleasures in order to attain those deeper and more long-range goals.

You can grow spiritually, you can grow financially, you can grow in your family life and in your marriage, and you can grow educationally and socially. However, in all of these, remember that you must be committed to growth. As the warmth and moisture of spring offers new growth to nature, so the Lord offers you strength in your personal life to continue your “growth journey” and become all that you can be.



Chapel

Coming events at Prussman Chapel:

Special LDS general conference broadcast — Saturday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. at Provider Chapel. Thursday nights community prayer meeting at 7 p.m.

“Christ in the Passover” dinner and service April 18. Watch for more information on this exciting Easter season event.

SCUBA is coming — a “Super Cool Undersea Bible Adventure,” or SCUBA, will be the 2003 Vacation Bible School from June 16 to 20, 9 a.m. to noon. All children age fourth through 6th grade may attend. Registration will begin May 1 at Soldiers’ Memorial Chapel. Space is limited. Volunteers are need for crew leader positions. For information, call Dennis Scheck at 526-5626.

New study for young couples beginning at Soldiers’ Memorial Chapel — A new time of study and conversation for young couples is beginning at Soldiers’ Memorial Chapel, building 1500 (next to the post exchange), Sundays at 9:30 a.m. This group is for young couples with or without children. Child-care is provided free. If your spouse is deployed this is for you. The group will discuss and explore topics of interest both in and outside of the Bible. For information, call the Soldiers’ Memorial Chapel at 526-8011.

Chapel

Special Fort Carson Lenten Services:

Christian Ecumenical — Midweek devotions and lunch, 11:30 a.m. Wednesdays at Soldiers' Memorial Chapel.

Catholic — 5:30 p.m. Fridays — Soup/Bread Supper; 6 p.m. Fridays — Stations of the Cross at Soldiers' Memorial Chapel.

Coming events at Prussman Chapel —

Thursday Night Community Prayer Meeting, every Thursday at 7 p.m.; "Christ in Passover" Dinner and service is April 18.

Holy Week and Easter Schedule:

Protestant:

Maundy Thursday Liturgy and Communion,

April 17, Evans Army Community Hospital, 10 a.m.; Soldiers' Memorial Chapel, 11:30 a.m.; Good Friday Liturgy, Christian Ecumenical, April 18, Soldiers' Memorial Chapel, noon.

Easter Sunday: Easter Sunrise Service, Soldiers' Memorial Chapel, 6:30 a.m. Featured Speaker is retired Chap. (Col.) Chuck Adams. A continental breakfast will follow service.

Note: Regular Sunday schedule at all chapels.

Catholic:

Holy Thursday, April 17, Soldiers' Memorial Chapel, 7 p.m.

Good Friday, April 18, Soldiers' Memorial Chapel, 7 p.m.

Holy Saturday (Vigil), April 19, Soldiers' Memorial Chapel, 8 p.m. (No regular Saturday 5 p.m. Mass)

Easter Sunday: No 8 a.m. mass at Prussman Chapel. Soldiers' Memorial Chapel, 9:30 a.m. Mass. Provider Chapel, 12:15 p.m. Mass.

Chapel Schedule

ROMAN CATHOLIC				
Day	Time	Service	Chapel	Location
M-W-F	noon	Mass	Healer	Evans Army Hospital
Tues., Wed., Thurs.	noon	Mass	Soldiers'	Nelson & Martinez
Saturday	5 p.m.	Mass	Soldiers'	Nelson & Martinez
Sunday	8 a.m.	Mass	Prussman	Barkeley & Prussman
Sunday	9:30 a.m.	Mass	Soldiers'	Nelson & Martinez
Sunday	10:45 a.m.	CCD	Soldiers'	Nelson & Martinez
Sunday	11 a.m.	Mass	Healer	Evans Army Hospital
Sunday	12:15 p.m.	Mass	Provider	Barkeley & Ellis
EASTERN ORTHODOX				
Sunday	8 a.m.	Divine Liturgy	Soldiers'	Nelson & Martinez
PROTESTANT				
Sunday	9 a.m.	Protestant	Healer	Evans Army Hospital
Sunday	9 a.m.	Protestant	Provider	Barkeley & Ellis
Sunday	9:30 a.m.	Protestant	Veterans'	Magrath & Titus
Sunday	11 a.m.	Protestant	Soldiers'	Nelson & Martinez
Sunday	11 a.m.	Prot./Gospel	Prussman	Barkeley & Prussman
Sunday	9:30 a.m.	Sun. School	Soldiers'	Nelson & Martinez
Sunday	9:30 a.m.	Sun. School	Prussman	Barkeley & Prussman
Sunday	2 p.m.	Latter Day	Provider	Nelson & Martinez
Sunday	6:30 p.m.	PYOC	Soldiers'	Nelson & Martinez
LITURGICAL PROTESTANT				
Sunday	10:45 a.m.	Protestant	Provider	Barkeley & Ellis
JEWISH				
For information and a schedule of Jewish Sabbath services, call the U.S. Air Force Academy Cadet Chapel at 333-2636.				
WICCA				
2nd and 4th Tuesday	6:30 p.m.	Spiritual Fitness Center	Barkeley & Ellis	Ms. Costantino-Mead/ (303) 428-7703

Daily Bible readings: In order to assist in regular scripture reading, the following scriptures are recommended. These scriptures are part of the common daily lectionary which is designed to present the entire Bible over a three-year cycle.

Friday — Psalms 116 & Romans 10-13

Saturday — Psalms 117 & Romans 14-16

Sunday — Psalms 118 & 1 Corinthians 1-3

Monday — Psalms 119:1-8 & 1 Corinthians 4-6

Tuesday — Psalms 119:9-16 & 1 Corinthians 7-9

Wednesday — Psalms 119:17-24 & 1 Corinthians 10-11

Thursday — Psalms 119: 25-32 & 1 Corinthians 12-14

The Army Cycle Of Prayer — Each week the Office of the Army Chief of Chaplains will highlight Army units, the Army at large, the nation and religious organizations to focus prayer. You are invited to join with the chaplain community and pray for these individuals and organizations. Please pray this week for the following: **Unit:** For the soldiers, families and leaders of the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), the Screaming Eagles, headquartered at Fort Campbell, Ky. **Army:** For the dedicated officers, warrant officers, noncommissioned officers and soldiers of the Aviation Branch, whose regimental home is at Fort Rucker, Ala. **State:** For all soldiers and their families from the state of Kentucky. Pray also for Gov. Paul Patton, the state legislators and municipal officials of the Bluegrass State. **Nation:** For the thousands of employees of the Department of Justice, who daily uphold the laws that ensure our citizen's safety and our country's order. **Religious:** For all chapel choir directors, musicians and choirs, that our hymns and songs might give praise and honor to God and uplift our people.

For more information on the Army Cycle of Prayer, or to pray for items from previous weeks, visit the cycle's Web site at www.usarmychaplain.com.

Radio station tuning in to help families

Local businesses and the Magic Morning Show team up to adopt soldiers' families

by Spc. Matt Millham
14th Public Affairs Detachment

Whether for or against the war in Iraq, one thing is certain; no American patriot wants to see American troops killed in the conflict. That is not to say, however, that all Americans are patriots.

"Have we gone to war yet?" Chrissie Hynde, lead singer for rock group The Pretenders asked a concert crowd in San Francisco last month. "We ... deserve to get bombed. Bring it on. I hope the Muslims win," she said to a cacophony of boos.

And the jeering didn't stop in San Francisco. When that clip was played on Colorado Springs' CK and Lazerman Magic Morning Show on the radio station 98.9 Magic FM, the city's residents and Fort Carson's soldiers and families were incensed.

A flurry of irate phone calls to the station led the morning show to fire back at Hynde, but in a compassionate and constructive way. They decided to help the troops.

Their plan was to adopt local military families in which the soldier was deploying and leaving spouses and children behind.

"This is personal for me," said "Romi," Magic Morning Show co-host and producer. "My sister's is one of the families we've adopted." Romi's brother-in-law is in the 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment at Fort Carson.

"We didn't have any number planned, but we realized we couldn't adopt everybody," said Romi. The calls poured in. In the end, the first six families to call in to the program were adopted.

As soon as they decided to adopt the families, local businesses queued up to offer help. The first of what is planned to be a monthly event kicked off Thursday night at a local pizzeria in the Mission Trace Shopping Center on South Academy Blvd.

Gordon Niederhauser, the owner, is a former Army sergeant major and Vietnam-era veteran who put in 22 years of service before retiring in Colorado Springs. He was among the city's residents angered by Hynde's anti-troop comments.

"When we got back from Vietnam, there were demonstrations with people spitting at us and kicking us," said Niederhauser. "We're trying to make up



Photo by Spc. Matt Millham

Magic Morning Show's "Romi" introduces her niece Ashley Villalobos to Poppy, the official pizzeria mascot. Ashley's father, Sgt. Gary Villalobos of 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment, received deployment orders in February.

for some of that."

The pizzeria gave the four Army families who showed up for the event free food and game tokens for the children. Red, white and blue balloons, American and Colorado flags and a "God Bless America" banner decorated the room in which the families dined.

"We plan on doing this every month for different families until the fighting is over," said Niederhauser. "When we do this thing we're not just going to be asking for soldiers from Fort Carson. We're also going to try to get Air Force airmen and people from other military installations in the area."

The families at the pizzeria Thursday were appreciative of the efforts by both Magic FM and the restaurant. Dianna Emmou, a public relations representative at Memorial Hospital and wife of Staff Sgt. Franck Emmou, 3rd ACR support squadron, was the first to call in and have her family "adopted" by the radio station.

"My daughters were in the car when I heard the segment with Chrissie Hyndes," said Emmou.

"I was shocked. One of my daughters said to me, 'does that mean she wants our daddy to die?'" Emmou said. "I called in to voice my opinion.

Whether we are in favor of (the war) or not, it's not our decision and we need to support our troops."

That support is pouring in, said Romi. A local movie theater donated enough movie tickets for the six families and there are more services and product donations in the works, and perhaps more families will be adopted, said Romi.

Though Colorado Springs has endured its share of anti-war protests, the community's residents,

for the most part, understand the separation between the war and the soldiers.

Supporting war is not a patriotic duty, but it does not go hand in hand with supporting our troops. The compassion the Colorado Springs community has shown its military members has been nothing if not patriotic.

"We plan on doing this every month for different families until the fighting is over."

**Gordon Niederhauser
local pizzeria owner**

AFAP issue:

Soldiers' getting involved in their children's school

by Judy Woolley
Army Community Service

The Fort Carson Army Family Action Plan Conference was held in

November. Fort Carson delegates prioritized 20 issues to improve the quality of life for Fort Carson soldiers, family members and retirees. Nine of the issues were forwarded to the

Forces Command AFAP Conference for consideration at the Department of the Army level AFAP Conference. Eleven

of the issues were retained locally for resolution. The following issue was prioritized by the Force Support work-group.

Involvement in child's school progress: The scope of this issue states that current leaders do not allow service-members to leave work to attend their children's activities such as parent-teacher conferences. It affects family well-being, soldiers' morale and child development. The work group recommended that commanders encourage leaders and first-line supervisors to

release soldiers to attend parent-teacher conferences as mission permits.

Lt. Col. Tony Cusimano, the garrison executive officer, responded to this issue. He noted that Maj. Gen. Robert Wilson, 7th Infantry Division and Fort Carson commanding general, stated to the attendees at this year's AFAP Conference that he fully supported this AFAP issue and recommendation. There is not a current 7th ID and Fort Carson policy/directive to support the implementation of this recommendation. It is the general opinion of the leaders questioned that management of soldiers' duty time is the responsibility of the Major Support Command Commander. A review of Fort Carson MSC policy

letters does not find any local policies that address this issue. III Corps Policy number G3-01-01, dated March 26, 2001, and signed by Lt. Gen. LaPorte, endorses command support of soldiers' parental responsibilities to attend scheduled parent/teacher conferences. This is an active Fort Carson issue and the AFAP Steering Committee recommends a policy letter be written by the commanding general to support this issue.

To get additional information on any of the above issues or the Army Family Action Plan Conference contact Nancy A. Montville, the Fort Carson AFAP Coordinator. She can be reached at ACS, 526-4590, or at nancy.montville@carson.army.mil.



Holding down the fort . . .

by Spc. Chris Smith
14th Public Affairs Detachment

Soldiers are gearing up for war, goodbyes are being said and gear is being loaded. But what about those who help push the soldiers out the door, working in the back, not wearing a uniform ... just doing their jobs with a smile.

Civilians all around Fort Carson have been doing their part to support the war effort. They work in the warehouses, the rail yards, the maintenance facilities, standing on corners showing support, the medical fields and just about everywhere in between. Their hard work is an intricate part of soldiers going to war.

"It's great," said Staff Sgt. John C. Smith, Troop K, 3rd Squadron, 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment. "They're working later hours than normal and they're still polite and courteous."

Smith is part of the ACR and is awaiting deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. He has dealt with civilians through many parts of his unit's preparation process for war.

One section of civilians has been helping to ensure soldiers go to war with equipment that functions correctly.

The Test Measurement Diagnostic Equipment section has been diagnosing and calibrating Nuclear Biological and Chemical equipment, weapons, vehicles and many other pieces of mission-essential equipment around post.

Charles Jones, TMDE Chief, takes his job and that of his workers seriously.

"It's very important that we do a good job," he said. "Their life can depend on it."

He went on to say that he has developed friendships with a lot of the soldiers going to war and he doesn't want any harm to come to them.

The TMDE section isn't the only group of civilians doing their part. Most of the Department of Logistics staff, situated in building 8000, is made up of civilians who provide maintenance support to Fort Carson.

But across post from DOL is the Soldier Readiness Processing site. Civilians there ensure soldiers are prepared to deploy in more personal ways than the rest of the sections on post.

Romana Michaskiw checks soldiers' mental health before they deploy. She said she was a World War II child and remembers how horrible wars can be.

"I don't want any of them (the soldiers) going to war," Michaskiw said. "But anything I can do to make it easier on soldiers makes me feel better."

The other day she interviewed a soldier who was downtrodden because he didn't know how his parents could get in touch with him in case of an emergency.

"He was from Haiti, and worried," she said. "I told him about the Red Cross, and when he left he seemed very relaxed."

These civilians are just a few of the thousands who work on Fort Carson every day. Many are parents, spouses, retirees and siblings of military members. They understand the sacrifice of serving and serve Fort Carson every day — without wearing a uniform.



Photo by Spc. Matt Millham

Pvt. William Schnellenberger, 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment, has his hair cut by Helen Yi, an Army Air Force Exchange Service concessionaire, at the post exchange.



Photo by Spc. Chris Smith

Romana Michaskiw, a registered nurse with Fort Carson mental health, screens Maj. John Papile's, 1022nd Medical Company, medical records at the Soldier Readiness Processing site.



Photo by Sgt. Roy Gomez

Some members of the local civilian community carry flags and signs in support of Fort Carson's Troops Tuesday on Nevada Avenue.



Photo by Spc. Chris Smith

Chester Gross, contractor, Test Measurement Diagnostic Equipment, runs a diagnostic test on a jet engine calibration kit.



Photo by Spc. Chris Smith

Joyce Griggs, Central Issue Facility warehouse worker, helps soldiers from 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment get the proper items for deployment.



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Out & About

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28	Collateral Damage	R
29	Hart's War	R
30	Snow Dogs	PG
31	We Were Soldiers	R
April 1	John Q	PG-13
2	The Scorpion King	PG-13
3	The Rookie	G
4	Star Wars: Attack of Clones	PG-13
5	Wind Talkers	R
6	Roller Ball	PG-13
7	High Crimes	PG-13
8	Black Hawk Down	R
9	Big Fat Liar	PG
10	The Sum of All Fears	PG-13
11	Undercover Brothers	PG-13
12	Crossroads	PG-13
13	Showtime	PG-13
14	The Time Machine	PG-13
15	Dragon Fly	PG-13
16	Deuces Wild	R
17	The New Guy	PG-13
18	Scooby-Doo	G
19	Bad Company	PG-13
20	Changing Lanes	R
21	Hey Arnold	PG
22	The Bourne Identity	PG-13
23	About a Boy	PG-13

Every Saturday, FREE Matinee Starts at 2 pm

Date	Movie	Rating
March 29	Scooby-Doo	G
April 5	Hey Arnold	PG
12	Big Fat Liar	PG
19	Snow Dogs	PG

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19 April 2003

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FORT CARSON YOUTH SERVICES 2003

Sports Page

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ALL AGES 5550 MAIN AVE. 3-4-5-6-7-8-10-12;
(Divisional) 13-15; 16-18
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Sports & Leisure

World Class Athlete Program boxer ...

Fighting with fists of fury

by Bill Scharton
Mountaineer staff

To say it was an eventful week for Army boxer Keith Mason is probably an understatement.

On March 24, Mason was ready to box his opening preliminary round bout in the 2003 U.S. Men's National Championships and his wife Jamie was ready to give birth to their first child.

Mason weighed in for his bout at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs as his new son weighed in at 7 pounds, 4 ounces. Afterwards, Mason headed straight to the hospital to be with Jamie and Kristopher.

And now Mason had to try to focus on his tournament bout. He knew his wife and newborn baby son were all right and this probably helped with his concentration. Nonetheless, it was a daunting task under the circumstances.

Mason was not at his best for this first contest. However, he managed to use his speed and athletic ability to eke out a close 7-6 decision over his opponent.

"It is usually easy to focus once the bell rings," said Mason. "But this time it was a little more difficult due to everything that was going on."

With the excitement of March 24 under his belt, Mason was able to face his next opponent with a little more peace of mind. This was reflected in his ring performance as he advanced to the tournament quarterfinals.

Next up was the quarterfinal contest, a really important bout according to Army boxing coach Basheer Abdullah. "This is a big one," said Abdullah prior to the contest. "Win this one and you make it to the U.S. Challenge."

The top four finishers in each weight class from nationals advance to the U.S. Challenge tournament the next weekend. The results of the U.S. Challenge determine the participants for the 2003 Pan American Games and World Championships.

Mason looked sharp in the March 26 quarterfinal action. He again used quickness and good defense to gain a decision (10-6) over his foe. "That was a big win for me," said Mason. "Making the U.S. Challenge was a goal."

Mason would now have to face the number one ranked Rock Allen in the semifinals. Mason's parents, Keith Sr. and Rozalene Mason, arrived in town for this contest and to meet their first grandchild for the first time.

Prior to the semifinal bout, Keith Sr. said he still gets really nervous before a fight even though he has seen sons Keith and Rondale box many, many times. "I have been able to calm down a little bit as I got older," said Keith Sr. "My wife is a more vocal spectator nowadays."



Photos by Bill Scharton

Keith Mason, Army boxer, tries to penetrate the defense of Rock Allen during their 141-pound semi-final bout at the 2003 U.S. Mens' National Boxing Championships. Mason lost by a decision to Allen, but landed a spot the U.S. Challenge Tournament this weekend by making the semi-finals at nationals.

Mason was outpointed by Allen in the semifinal contest. USA Boxing officials described the bout:

"The Philadelphia pugilist (Allen) controlled all aspects of the bout, utilizing defensive tactics that proved impenetrable. Allen was armed with a great jab and the uncanny ability to pick off every offensive threat posed by Mason."

Following the tough loss in the semifinals, Mason had his priorities in order and his perspective was proper.

"It has been an unbelievably good week," said

See Fury, Page 22



Keith Mason's boxing career highlights

2003 All-Army champ
2003 Armed Forces champ
2002 All-Army champ
2002 American Boxing Classic gold medalist
2001 Ringside gold medalist

2000 Under 19 bronze medalist
1999 National and international junior olympic gold medalist
1998 PAL bronze medalist
1998 Ohio state fair champ
1997 Ohio state fair champ

Flying solo: 1 Army boxer makes it to semi-finals

by **Bill Scharton**
Mountaineer staff

Only one Army boxer, Keith Mason (141 pounds), made it past the quarterfinals at the 2003 U.S. Men's Boxing National Championships. The national tournament took place March 24 to 28 at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs.

The quarterfinal round was March 26 and Army had six boxers battling for one of the important final four places in their weight class. The final four in each weight class would get the opportunity to rumble again today and Saturday in the 2003 U.S. Challenge at the Olympic Training Center.

Except for K. Mason, Army head boxing coach Basheer Abdullah watched as his troops went down to defeat on after another. "Oh man, it was a terrible day," said Abdullah after witnessing five losses in six attempts by his Army boxers.

Two Army boxers, Rondale Mason (152 pounds) and Julius Fogle (165 pounds), were defending national champions in their respective weight classes and they both lost upset decisions to their opponents in the quarterfinals.

R. Mason dropped a close 8-6 decision to Anthony Dirrell. "I knew the scoring would be close, but I

thought I won the fight," said R. Mason. Abdullah was frustrated with the outcome and the judging but he said the final score was too close to argue about.

Fogle was bested 12-8 by Joe Greene and Abdullah was clearly disappointed with the result of this bout. "I thought Fogle won the bout," said Abdullah. "His opponent was physical, but he didn't land many scoring blows. In hindsight, I guess Fogle needed to step up and throw more combinations."

Army boxers Torrence Daniels (119 pounds), Aaron Bensinger (132 pounds) and Jeffrey Spencer (178 pounds) lost by decision in their quarterfinal contests. Army boxers Adrian Brown (112 pounds), Jason Franco (125 pounds), Charles Leverette (201 pounds) and Carlos Ibarra (201+ pounds) were eliminated from the tournament in the preliminaries.

Army World Class Athlete Program Fort Carson boxers Clarence Joseph (165 pounds) and Mahlon Kerwick (132 pounds) boxed for the Four Corners regional team at nationals.

Both boxers lost in the preliminaries.

K. Mason lost his semifinal bout to defending national champion Rock



Photo by Bill Scharton

Army boxer Aaron Bensinger, left, avoids a right hand by his opponent and counters with a left cross of his own. Bensinger lost in the quarterfinals at the 2003 U.S. Men's National Boxing Championships.

Allen. However, by placing in the top four of his weight class, K. Mason will get to compete in the U.S. Challenge today and Saturday at the OTC. The U.S. Challenge will determine the participants in the 2003 Pan American Games and the World Championship.

Overall, Abdullah was disappointed with the team's performance at

nationals. The Army boxers are now back in the gym to prepare for upcoming state, regional and national Golden Gloves competition.

"I am very confident these guys will bounce back in strong fashion," said Abdullah. "They will continue to improve in 2003 and will be formidable foes in 2004 for the Olympic qualifiers."

Wrestling trial camp ...

Challenge matches slated for today

by Bill Scharton
Mountaineer staff

The daily routine at the All-Army Wrestling Team trial camp here at Fort Carson is an arduous one. It consists of drills, technique training, stretching, calisthenics, weight training and, yes, even some wrestling.

This routine grinds to a halt today when challenge matches take place in select weight classes for both Greco-Roman and freestyle wrestling. Matches will be contested from 9 a.m. to noon and 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. today at the Army World Class Athlete Program wrestling facility on post.

In Greco-Roman wrestling, All-Army Wrestling Team slots will be up for grabs at 55 kilograms, 60 kilograms and 120 kilograms. Freestyle challenge matches will be held at 60 kilograms, 66 kilograms, 74 kilograms, 84 kilograms and 96 kilograms.

"It is a short camp, but the guys are working hard every day," said All-Army Team and Army World Class Athlete Program head wrestling coach Shon Lewis. "I have been satisfied with their effort."

The All-Army Wrestling Team that emerges from the trial camp will continue to train here at Fort Carson until Thursday. At that time, the team will travel to Mountain Home, Idaho, to compete in the 2003 Armed Forces Wrestling Championships. Army is the defending Armed Forces champion.

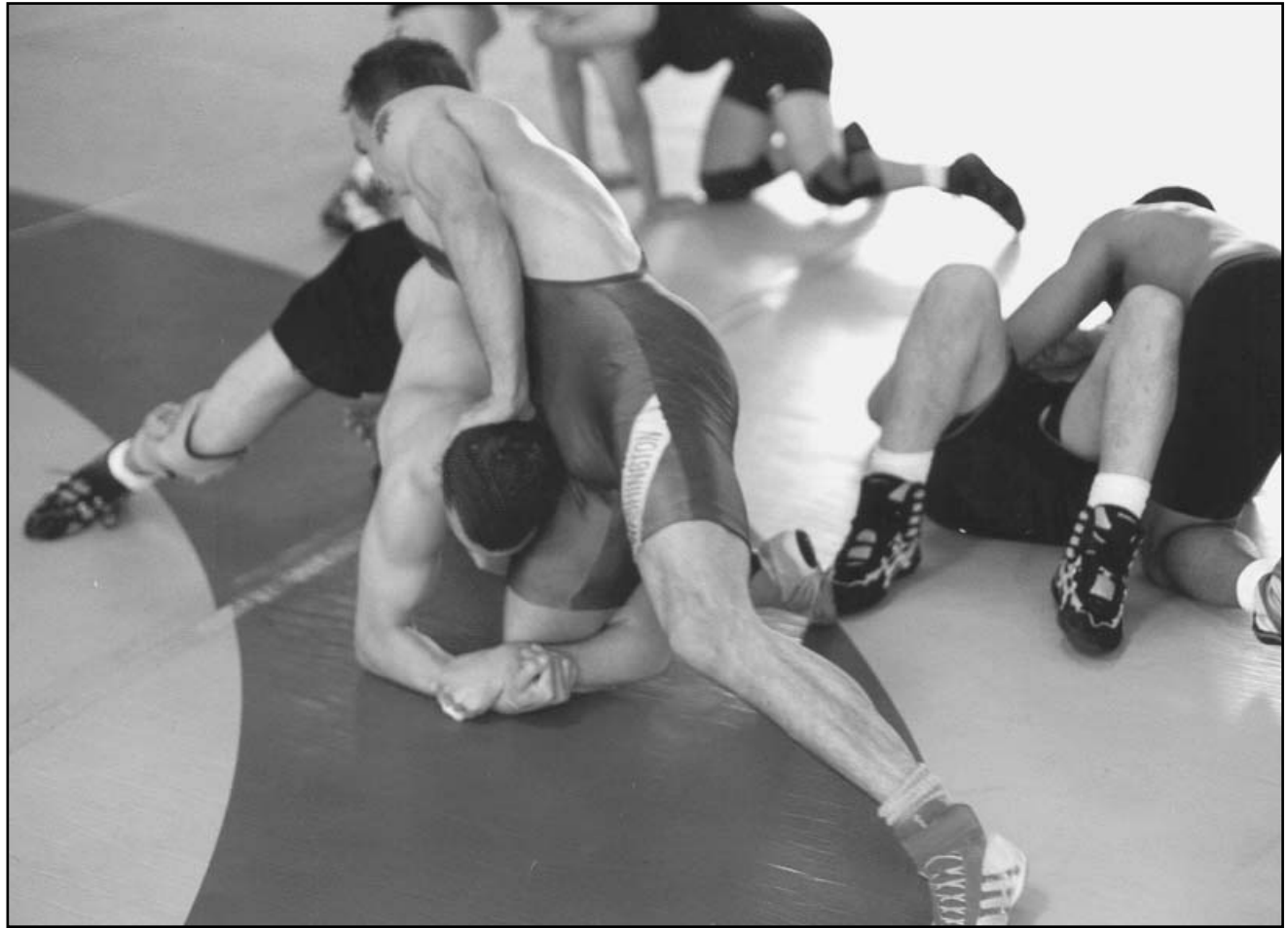


Photo by Bill Scharton

Glenn Garrison, top, and Jason Kutz, Army World Class Athlete Program wrestling team members at Fort Carson, practice some moves during drills at the All-Army Wrestling Team trial camp. The trial camp started March 20 at the WCAP wrestling facility on post and will conclude today with challenge matches in select weight classes.



Photo by Bill Scharton

Keith Mason, left, receives media attention following his quarterfinal victory at the 2003 U.S. Mens' National Boxing Championship. The quarterfinal win assured Mason a spot in the U.S. Challenge Tournament this weekend at the Olympic Training Center.

Fury

From Page 19

Mason. "Having a new, healthy baby is the highlight of my life.

"My parents are here. I am proud to represent the Army in everything I do. All of this has been quite an inspiration to me this week."

Mason's parents and his coach

were proud of his tournament performance, especially under the trying circumstances. "We are proud parents," said mom Rozalene. "Keith and his brother Rondale represent the Army very well."

Coach Abdullah thought Mason really put out a strong effort in the semifinal bout. "The leadership is proud of you," said

Abdullah to Mason. "You worked hard and represented the Army team in strong fashion."

In the first round of the U.S. Challenge today at 7 p.m. in the Olympic Training Center, Mason will go up against Lamont Peterson, the winner of the 141-pound weight class at nationals. Peterson upset Allen in the 141-pound title bout.

Sports briefs

Female softball team

Female softball team sign-up — If there is enough interest, the Mountain Post will have a female softball team this spring and summer. Catherine Satow is organizing the effort to put the team together. The team will play in the Colorado Springs City Parks and Recreation League. For additional information or to sign up for the squad, call Satow at 526-9373.

Wellness center

The Mountain Post Wellness Center will again offer a variety of educational classes in April. Classes include Stress Management, Brown Bag Lunches, Tobacco Cessation, Active Duty Weight Control, Anger Management, Cholesterol and High Blood Pressure Management, Civilian Wellness Program and Healthy Eating and Exercise. For additional information, call 526-3887.

Family swim night

Family swim night takes place every Thursday from 6 to 8 p.m. at the indoor pool. The cost is \$4 per family and \$3 for guests. For more information, call 526-3107.

Harlem Ambassadors

The Harlem Ambassadors basketball team will perform at Fort Carson April 15. The performance will begin at 6 p.m. at the Special Events Center (building 1829 Specker Ave., formerly the Post Physical Fitness Center). The performance is free. For additional information, call 526-4494.

Athletes of year honored in Washington, D.C.

by Bill Scharton
Mountaineer staff

Army World Class Athlete Program Fort Carson wrestlers Tina George and Dremiel Byers were honored March 28 as Army female and male athletes of the year for 2002.

The official award presentation took place at a U.S. Military Sports Association "Pride of the Nation" banquet in Washington, D.C.

George and Byers were accompanied to the ceremony by Fort Carson WCAP commander Maj. Michael Hagen and 1st Sgt. Willie Wilson. "It was great to have our chain of command support us like this," said George.

At the banquet, George was seated with Sgt. Maj. of the Army Jack A. Tilley

"Sgt. Maj. Tilley's participation in the ceremony meant a lot to me," said George. "With everything that is going on right now, he still managed to take the time to be with us."

Along with George and Byers, athletes of the year from the Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard were also honored at the annual event.



Photo by Rosie George

Sgt. Maj. of the Army Jack A. Tilley, congratulates Tina George, right, at the official presentation for the 2002 Army female athlete of the year award March 28 in Washington, D.C. George is a freestyle wrestler with the Army World Class Athlete Program at Fort Carson.



Story and photos
by Nel Lampe
Mountaineer staff

Coors Field in downtown Denver is one of the best ballparks in Major League Baseball.

Coors Field: One of Major League Baseball’s best ballparks



ne of Major League Baseball’s greatest ballparks is in downtown Denver — Coors Field, home of the Colorado

Rockies.

The ballpark cost \$215.5 million to build and opened for the first official game April 26, 1995. The playing field is three acres and the entire ballpark contains 76 acres, and is in what is known as Lodo, or lower downtown Denver.

Denver is known for its sports fans. The Denver Broncos play to filled stadiums at every game and no-shows are booed heartily when attendance figures are announced. There’s a waiting list years long for season tickets. Even loyal fans boo the Broncos when they aren’t playing well but still fill their seats at the next game. The Avalanche hockey team has eager fans and even the Nuggets basketball team has a following.

Denver fans wanted a baseball team of their own for many years, even approving a sales tax to fund construction of a stadium before Colorado even had an expansion team designated.

Originally, Coors Field was designed for 43,800 fans, but atten-



Visitors taking the “Behind the Seams” tour get a chance to check out the Colorado Rockies dugout.

dance at Colorado Rockies home games during the club’s first year, when home games were played in the Bronco’s Mile High Stadium, were phenomenal. For instance, an attendance record of 80,227 fans were in Mile High April 9, 1993, setting a new one-game baseball attendance Major League record. In fact, the first year’s attendance record for the Colorado Rockies was 4.5 million people, shattering the previous first-year record of 1.7 million fans at Toronto in 1977.

The owners went back to the draw-

ing board to increase seating. The final version of Coors Field, designed and built by HOK Sport of Kansas City, Mo., holds 50,381 fans.

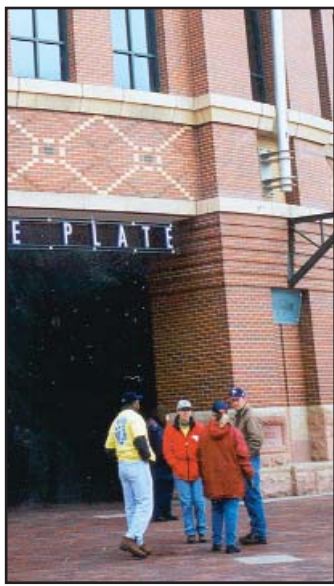
The design of Coors Field is tied in to the dark-red brick style of lower downtown Denver. The 25-acre LoDo was filled with old commercial buildings and warehouses. Construction used 1.4 million bricks which matched the color of the old buildings in the area. Colorado sandstone was also used in the design, as well as 9,000 tons of steel, finished in dark green. The steel is a tribute to the area’s railroad heritage, used in a design and style reminiscent of railroad tracks.

Although the selection of the LoDo district as the site for Coors Field was a surprising choice to some residents, the rundown district has been revitalized by Coors Field and the inevitable sports bars and restaurants located nearby. Lodo apartments and lofts have become coveted addresses.

One way to set foot in the Rockies’ dugout or in one of the luxurious party rooms is to take a tour of Coors Field. Tour guides take visitors through one



“Rockpile” seats are just above the batter’s eye and the waterworks area.



Places to see in the Pikes Peak area.

April 4, 2003

Coors

From Page 25

of the 52-luxury party suites, furnished with overstuffed chairs and trimmed in cherry-wood paneling. Visitors see the club level and take a walk through the visitors' locker room.

Tours are offered year-round every day but Sunday. Tours are available beginning at 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. when there's no home game. When there's a night home game, tours are offered only from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. The tours last just over an hour. Tours cost \$6 for adults and \$4 for those 12 and under. Tour arrangements may be made by calling (800) ROCKIES and booking with a credit card, or to inquire about tour availability. Tickets, subject to availability and whether or not there's a home game, can be purchased at the stadium at a ticket window. The stadium is at 20th and Blake Street.

Of course, just buying a ticket gets you inside one of Major League Baseball's neatest ballparks. The first home game is with Arizona at 2 p.m. today. The series continues with 1 p.m. games Saturday and Sunday. St. Louis is next up with 7 p.m. games Tuesday and Wednesday. and the final game in the series is Thursday at 1 p.m.

San Diego is at Coors Field April 18, 19 and 20, and Chicago April 25, 26 and 27, followed by Cincinnati April 29, 30 and May 1.

New York is in Denver May 12, 13 and 14,

followed by Montreal May 15 to 18, San Francisco May 23 through 26 and Los Angeles is in town May 27 to 29.

For the rest of the schedule, go to www.coloradorockies.com.

Amenities at Coors Field include great views of downtown Denver, the playing field and, from first-base and right-field stands, great views of the Rocky Mountains.

There are more than 40 places to buy ballpark food at Coors Field. There's an enclosed playground in the left-field area and a snackbar called Buckaroos, where the food portions are child size.

The 50,000 seats are roomy, each is 19 inches wide. The seats are finished in a dark green which matches the green steel décor. There's one row of seats on the 20th row of the upper stands painted Rockies' purple. The purple seats are exactly one mile above sea level.

Coors Field has a natural grass playing field with an underground heating system. The heating systems lengthens the Colorado growing season and can also be used to melt the snow for spring games.

By the batter's eye in centerfield is a natural landscape fashioned from 365 tons of native rocks and trees. This landscape is where the water show takes place. Three 10-foot waterfalls and a 40-foot gusher activate when the Colorado Rockies come onto the field. It is also activated after a Rockies' home run and after a victory.

Nearby is the bleacher area known as the "Rockpile." Rockpile tickets are \$1 for children and senior citizens and \$4 for everyone else. Rockpile tickets for children are sold the day of the game, beginning two and a half hours before game time. Tickets for children are limited to two tickets per buyer. Adult Rockpile tickets can be purchased at King Soopers or the ticket office.

There are 17 price levels, from the Rockpile \$4 to \$41 in the infield club level. Tickets can be purchased several ways: There is a \$2.50 service charge for each ticket purchased by phone at (800) 388-ROCK, using a credit card and paying a one-time handling fee of \$1.75. Phone orders may be mailed or held for pickup at the "will call" window. Tickets can also be purchased at area King Sooper Stores which also has a service fee.

The cheapest way to purchase tickets is at the ball park ticket offices. Games with popular baseball clubs may be sold out, especially on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. But same day tickets are usually available on weekdays. Once at the ticket office, buy tickets for any future game you choose.

Tickets for some



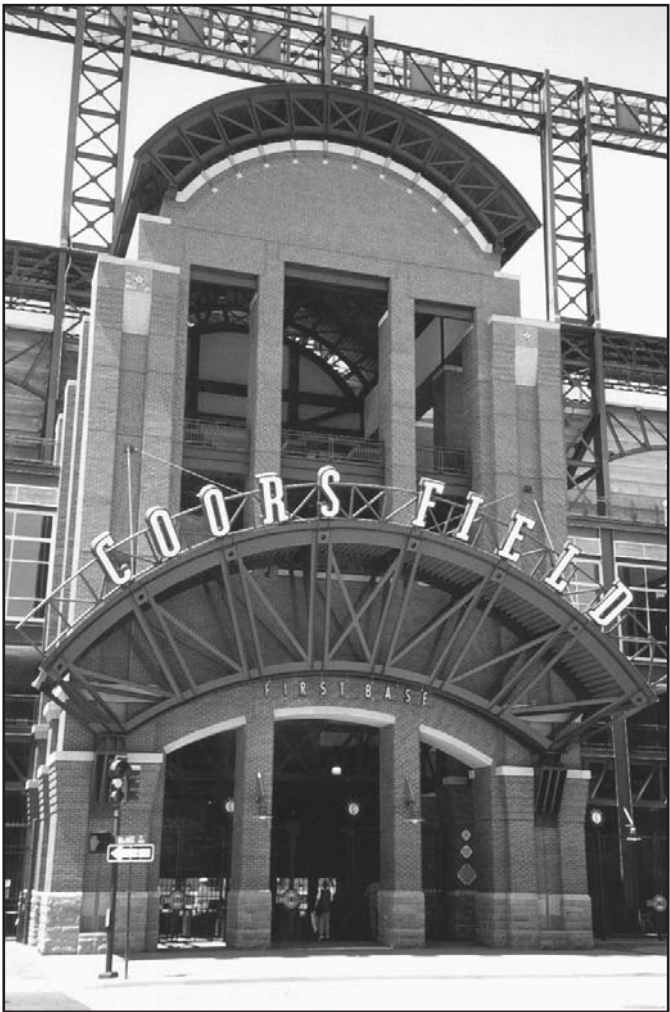
The visitors' dressing room is ready for the next visiting team at Coors Field.

games will be available at the Fort Carson Information, Tickets and Registration Office.

Heightened security measures at Coors Field prohibit hard-sided coolers, ice chests or briefcases. The maximum soft-side bag size allowed is 16 inches by 16 inches by 8 inches.

Prohibited items include alcoholic beverages or non-alcoholic beer, illegal drugs, glass bottles and aluminum cans, wineskins or camel packs, bullhorns or noise makers, inflatable balls or balloons; stools or folding chairs; large squirt guns or super soakers and large pizza boxes.

To reach Coors Field, take Interstate 25 north to Denver, taking the 20th Street Exit. There are commercial parking lots in the area, which cost about \$8 to \$10.



Coors Field's first base entrance is impressive.



The Coors Field logo is on the entrance gate to the ballpark.

Sky Sox, a farm club of the Colorado Rockies

Colorado Springs Sky Sox, a Triple A minor league team, play at Sky Sox Stadium, 4385 Tutt Blvd., just off North Carefree and Powers.

Sky Sox Stadium was completed in 1989; according to Gabe Ross, Sky Sox public relations. The SkySox team, started in 1988, is a farm club of the Colorado Rockies. The "Sky Sox" name came from a previous Colorado Springs team which played in the 1950s era. The original name, "Sky" came from the high altitude and the "Sox" was because the team was affiliated with the Chicago White Sox. It was decided to re-use the historic name for the new Colorado Springs team.

Colorado Springs baseball is one of the best entertainment bargains around. Tickets are \$4 to \$8. The \$8 seats are box seats, and Ross said those tickets sell out early on Fridays and Saturdays, but tickets are usually available at the box office an hour before the game. Call 591-SOXX for tickets.

A parking lot by the ballpark costs \$4.

The season has started for the Colorado Sky Sox, and the first home game is with Memphis April 11 at 6 p.m., The series continues with Memphis April 12 and 13, with games at 1:30 p. m.

The rest of the home game schedule for April:
April 24, 25—Albuquerque 7 p.m.
April 26, 27—Albuquerque 1:30 p.m.

Just the Facts

- **Travel time** one hour plus
- **For ages** all
- **Type** Major League Baseball
- **Fun factor** ★★★★★ (Out of 5 stars)
- **Wallet damage** \$\$ to \$\$\$

\$ = Less than \$20

\$\$ = \$21 to \$40

\$\$\$ = \$41 to \$80

(Based on a family of four)

Get Out!

Free day at the YMCA

The Pikes Peak Region YMCAs are honoring military families with a free day Saturday at any of the five local YMCAs. Just show your ID card.

Academy concert series

The Air Force Academy Concert Series last show of the season features Lee Greenwood and Sandi Patty, April 12. Call the theater box office at 333-4497.

Travel films

The Fine Arts Center presents Horizons Travel Film Series, introduced and narrated by the film's maker. Tickets are \$7 at the door. The next film is "Australia" April 13 in the theater, 30 W. Dale St.

Mining museum

The Western Museum of Mining and Industry hosts "Super Saturday" April 12. The theme is "Mining Camp Newspapers" and participants learn about communicating through print. The activity is from 1 to 4 p.m., and costs \$3 per person. Reservations are requested, call 488-0880.

Denver theater

Denver Center Attractions' season tickets for the 2003 musical season are for sale. "42nd Street" is June 24 to July 6. "Oliver" is Aug. 19 to 31, "Urinetown: The Musical," is Sept. 9 to 21, followed by "Oklahoma" Dec. 14 to Jan. 3, 2004. The final production for the season, Jan. 6 to 31, 2004, is Mel Brooks' "The Producers." All shows are in downtown Denver's Buell Theatre. Call (303) 893-4000 or go online, www.denvercenter.org

"Never Too Late" is the new dinner theater feature at the Country Dinner Playhouse in south Denver, at 6875 S. Clinton St. Tickets start at \$25.50 for a noon buffet and performance. There's also a dinner and evening performance. Call (303) 799-1410.

"Les Miserables" is at the Buell Theatre in downtown Denver May 14 through 24, with ticket

prices starting at \$15. Go to www.denvercenter.org or call (303) 893-4000.

Theater

"Same Time Next Year" is now playing at the Castaways Dinner Theater, 103 Manitou Ave. in Manitou Springs. Dinner and show are \$33. Show only tickets are available for \$22. Call 685-3700 or 685-3300 for tickets.

"Picasso at the Lapine Agile," written by **Steve Martin**, is presented by the Star Bar Players today and Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. at the Lon Chaney Theater in the Municipal Auditorium, at the corner of Kiowa and Weber streets; tickets start at \$10.

Broadway road shows

Pikes Peak Center's Broadway series next show is "The Music Man," April 15 and 16, and "Lord of the Dance," May 28 and 29. All shows are in the Pikes Peak Center. Call Ticketmaster at 520-9090.

World Arena lineup

An Auto Show is set for today, Saturday and Sunday. Admission is \$1.

Professional Bull Riders are scheduled for the arena April 18 at 8 p.m. and April 19 at 1:30 p.m.

Hallmark Skating Showcase is April 25, with tickets starting at \$19.50.

Tim Conway and Harvey Korman are "Together Again" May 8, at 7:30 p.m.

"Yanni" is in concert at the arena May 22.

Tickets for all these shows are available at 576-2626 or online at www.worldarena.com.

Exhibit at Denver Art Museum

A traveling exhibit in the Denver Art Museum is "Bonnard," which runs through May 25. Pierre Bonnard is a lesser known renaissance artist. More than 100 of his works will be in the exhibit, which has a special admission price, in addition to the regular museum admission. However, the art museum has free general admission for Colorado citizens on Saturday. The museum is in downtown Denver.

Acrobats

The Peking Acrobats, a world renowned troupe of tumblers, contortionists, gymnasts, jugglers and cyclists, bring their 2,000 year-old tradition of acrobatics to the Sangre de Cristo Arts and Conference Center April 12. There will be three shows available: 11 a.m., 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$20 for the

evening performance and \$5 for the shorter daytime performances. Call the box office at (719) 295-7222. The theater is at 210 N. Santa Fe Ave. in downtown Pueblo.

Denver events

Marcel Marceu, the renowned mime, performs in Denver at the Buell Theater Tuesday and Wednesday. Tickets start at \$15 and are on sale at www.denvercenter.org.

Jimmy Buffet is in the Pepsi Center April 24. Tickets start at \$35. Call Ticketmaster, 520-9090.

Christina Aguilera and Justin Timberlake appear together June 23 at the Pepsi Center. Call Ticketmaster at 520-9090. Prices start at \$39.50.

Grammy winner Norah Jones is at Red Rocks Amphitheatre in the Denver area Aug. 15. Tickets are at Ticketmaster, 520-9090.

Big Head Todd and the Monsters and Hootie and the Blowfish perform at Red Rocks Amphitheater May 17. Check with Ticketmaster, 520-9090 for tickets, which start at \$39.50.

Tim McGraw is scheduled for a Denver appearance at the Pepsi Center April 29. Check with Ticketmaster, 520-9090 for tickets.

Nature programs

Bear Creek Nature Center has "Folklore of Wild Birds" Saturday at 1 p.m. and "Birds and Bagels" April 26, from 8 to 10 a.m. Call the nature center at 520-6375 for reservations.

Fountain Creek Nature Center has "Ute Indian Heritage Day" Saturday, from 10 a.m. until noon. Austin Box will discuss the history, language and culture of the Ute nation, and there will be a bear dance. Call 520-6745 for reservations.

Philharmonic concerts

The newly created Colorado Springs Philharmonic has two upcoming concerts: Sunday, the group performs a pops concert, along with the Flying W Wranglers, at 7 p.m. at the Pikes Peak Center, 190 S. Cascade; \$21, 520-7469.

Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 2 is May 1 and 2, at 8 p.m. at the Pikes Peak Center; \$21.

Six Flags honors servicemembers

Six Flags Elitch Gardens marks Military Day April 19, from noon to 6 p.m. to show support for Colorado servicemembers. Tickets are available for half-price at Information, Tickets and Registration.

Happenings



Photo by Nel Lampe

Go to YMCA ...

Soldiers and family members may enjoy area YMCA facilities free of charge all day Saturday. A state-of-the-art indoor swimming pool is available at the Southeast Family Center, 2190 Jet Wing Drive, just off Academy Boulevard.



Program Schedule for Fort Carson cable Channel 10, today to April 11

Army Newswatch: includes stories on military deployments to Southwest Asia. Airls at 7:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m. and 12:30 a.m.

Navy/Marine Corps News: includes stories on Black History Month, the high-speed vessel Joint Venture and USS Russell sailors (repeat). Airls at 8 a.m., 1 p.m., 8 p.m. and 1 a.m.

Air Force News: includes stories on shuttle security, the Columbia disaster and the U.S. Space and Missile Center (repeat). Airls at 8:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 8:30 p.m. and 1:30 a.m.

Channel 9 daily broadcasts SCOLA, foreign

language news broadcasts. Access the schedule at the Fort Carson Web site.

If you have comments on Channel 10 programming or wish to coordinate a broadcast on Channel 10, please contact Chief of Command Information at 526-1241 or via e-mail at CommandInfo@carson.army.mil.

Program times will be published in the *Mountaineer* provided coordination is made one week prior to publication.

If you wish to have a training videotape shown on Channel 9 only, contact the Regional Training Support Center at 526-5111.

For additions to the Community Calendar, please submit an e-mail or a clean, typewritten copy of the information to the Public Affairs Office, room 2180, 6151 Specker Ave., Fort Carson, CO 80913 or fax information to 526-1021 no later than the Friday before airing time.